

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Scott J. Tuman, David L. Seidel, Leon Levitt, and
Brandon T. Berg
Serial No.:
Filed: March 29, 2001
For: METHOD FOR MAKING A STEM WEB

Group Art Unit:

Examiner:

#3 Plw
Re Amndt/B
4-502

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Please change the title to:

"METHOD FOR MAKING A STEM WEB"

Please substitute the following new abstract for the abstract presently in the application:

" Method for making a stem web material having a plurality of stems extending from discrete regions (patches or stripes) of the web, comprising:

- a) providing a web (e.g. nonwoven, woven or knit textile fabric; paper; microporous membrane; polymer film; etc.);
- b) providing discrete quantities of a polymer at a temperature above its softening point or in molten state;
- c) fusing the discrete quantities of polymer to the web; and
- d) forming a plurality of stems in each of the discrete quantities of polymer material.

The stems can be formed by pressing the web on which the patches or stripes of polymer are deposited against a tool having a surface with a plurality of stem-forming holes. The stems can be given enlarged ends by bringing the surface of the stem web close to a heated surface."

It is respectfully requested that the above amendments be entered and that the application be examined, and a Notice of Allowability is respectfully solicited.

Registration Number 28,439	Telephone Number 651-733-1501
Date March 29, 2001	

Respectfully submitted,

By


Douglas B. Little

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
P.O. Box 33427
St. Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427
Facsimile: (651) 736-3833